United Nations A/ES-10/233–S/2003/848

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
29 August 2003

Original: English

General Assembly
Tenth emergency special session
Agenda item 5
Illegal Israeli actions in Occupied East Jerusalem and the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory

Security Council
Fifty-eighth year

Identical letters dated 29 August 2003 from the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Israel, the occupying Power, continues to wage its brutal military campaign against the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem. In particular, throughout the past week, the Israeli occupying forces have fervently resumed the barbaric and criminal campaign of extrajudicial killings. Yesterday, the occupying forces committed yet another extrajudicial killing in the Gaza Strip. Using helicopter gunship missile fire, the occupying forces killed a Palestinian man, Hamdi Adnan Kalakh, and wounded at least three other Palestinians in the Khan Yunis area. Following the killing, Israeli officials once again declared their intention to continue targeting Palestinians for execution, regardless of the fact that such actions constitute war crimes and violations of international law and international humanitarian law.

At the same time, the Israeli occupying forces continued to carry out other illegal measures and actions throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territory. In the Beit Hanoun area of Gaza yesterday the occupying forces, using bulldozers and tanks, razed and destroyed large areas of farmland and orchards in collective punishment of the Palestinian population in the area. Indeed, it is being reported that the occupying forces are undertaking measures and preparations for even wider-scale military actions in the Gaza Strip. In addition, the occupying forces continue conducting raids and arresting Palestinians, particularly in the Nablus and Jenin areas. Among its actions in Jenin yesterday, the occupying forces also opened fire and wounded at least three Palestinian men.

Clearly, as the occupying forces continue to carry out this deadly military campaign against the Palestinian people, the grave situation on the ground in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, will continue to deteriorate. The ongoing policy of extrajudicial killings along with the continuing destruction of homes and property, ongoing colonial settlement activities, including the construction of the occupying Power's expansionist (annexation) wall, continuing restrictions on the freedom of movement of persons and goods, including

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the imposition of curfews, and recent measures with regard to Al-Haram Al-Sharif (Noble Sanctuary) in Occupied East Jerusalem, serve only to increase tensions and exacerbate an already inflamed situation. In light of this situation, the international community, particularly the Security Council, must undertake urgent measures to address such blatant Israeli violations of international law and to stem the perilous downward spiral of conditions on the ground and, in turn, of the peace process.

The present letter is in follow-up to our previous 170 letters to you regarding the crisis in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, since 28 September 2000. These letters, dated from 29 September 2000 (A/55/432-S/2000/921) to 27 August 2003 (A/ES-10/232-S/2003/843), constitute a basic record of the crimes committed by the Israeli occupying forces against the Palestinian people since September 2000. For all of these war crimes, State terrorism and systematic human rights violations committed against the Palestinian people, Israel, the occupying Power, must be held accountable and the perpetrators must be brought to justice.

Accordingly, in follow-up to the above-mentioned letters, it is my regret to inform you that, since my last letter, at least 4 Palestinians have been killed by the Israeli occupying forces, raising the total number of martyrs to 2,516 Palestinians. (The names of the martyrs that have been identified thus far are contained in the annex to the present letter.)

I would be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of the present letter and its annex distributed as a document of the tenth emergency special session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 5, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Nasser **Al-Kidwa**
Ambassador
Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations

Annex to the identical letters dated 29 August 2003 from the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Names of martyrs killed by Israeli occupying forces in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem* (Wednesday, 27 August 2003, and Thursday, 28 August 2003)

Wednesday, 27 August 2003

1. Mustafa Mohammed Ali Salahat
2. Mohammed Ibrahim Ba'lousheh (17 years old)

Thursday, 28 August 2003

1. Sabra Salem Hamdiyeh
2. Hamdi Adnan Kalakh

* The total number of Palestinian martyrs killed by Israeli occupying forces since 28 September 2000 is 2,516.

United Nations S/2003/849

Security Council

Distr.: General
29 August 2003
English
Original: French

Letter dated 29 August 2003 from the Permanent Representative of Côte d'Ivoire to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to transmit herewith a copy of an important message to the nation delivered on Tuesday, 26 August 2003, by Mr. Laurent Gbagbo, President of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire, following the simultaneous arrest in Côte d'Ivoire and France of persons involved in a plot to destabilize the Government of Côte d'Ivoire (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this message issued as a Security Council document.

(*Signed*) Philippe **Djangone-Bi**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the letter dated 29 August 2003 from the Permanent Representative of Côte d'Ivoire to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Message to the nation
H.E. Mr. Laurent Gbagbo
President of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire

26 August 2003

Fellow citizens,

You undoubtedly recall my statement of 7 February 2003. Noting the bitter reactions towards the Marcoussis Agreement, when I returned from Paris after the Kléber meeting, I appealed to you for calm and patience by inviting you to try this "medicine", for lack of a better alternative.

In this spirit, we firmly committed ourselves to the path of peace and national reconciliation. I must recall, however, that I considered it important to conduct this process in strict keeping with both the Constitution, the keystone of our institutions, and the commitments undertaken by the political parties and the rebel movements.

In this respect, I must stress the share of sacrifices that I myself agreed to bear by immediately dismissing the serving Prime Minister and his Government, with whom, it bears repeating, I found no fault.

In their place, I appointed a consensus Prime Minister to enable the establishment of a new Government of "national reconciliation".

Moreover, again for the sake of peace, I issued a decree, in implementation of the Marcoussis compromise, to delegate extensive powers to the new Prime Minister.

Furthermore, I accepted in this Government the presence of ministers from the rebel movements (the Mouvement patriotique de Côte d'Ivoire (MPCI), the Mouvement populaire du Grand Ouest (MPIGO) and the Mouvement pour la justice et la paix (MJP)) on an equal footing with all the legal political forces of Côte d'Ivoire.

In addition, contrary to my professed faith in ensuring strict respect for the separation of powers, I had to appeal to the Parliament for support of the amnesty law passed on 6 August 2003.

To enforce that law, which I immediately promulgated on 8 August, I instructed the interim Minister of Defence to issue an order immediately for the reintegration of all soldiers who are beneficiaries of that law.

Like all Ivorians, I was therefore looking forward to other advances in the national reconciliation process and a gradual return to peace.

We were still holding such hopes when the Ivorian intelligence services, working closely with the French intelligence services, informed me of a terrorist plot to overthrow our institutions.

In particular, that plot involved attempts to assassinate senior members of my staff and myself.

I can assure you that since the end of last week, cooperation between the Ivorian and French services has led to the simultaneous arrest in Côte I'voire and France of persons involved in that terrorist undertaking.

I should like to express sincere thanks to the French authorities at the highest level whose invaluable assistance has helped to thwart this nth attempt to destabilize our country, Côte d'Ivoire.

I recall that since the start of the events of 19 September 2002, France has constantly been at our side by deploying more than 4,000 of its soldiers to support the peace efforts of the international community in Côte d'Ivoire.

How can we fail therefore to condemn the cowardly assassination by rebels of two French servicemen yesterday as they were carrying out their mission on Lake Kossou? I honour of course the memory of those victims and offer the condolences of Côte d'Ivoire to France and the bereaved families.

Côte d'Ivoire cannot remain in this cycle of repeated threats of coups d'état indefinitely.

That is why I hope that the investigations into this other destabilization plot will be carried out with diligence, rigour and seriousness so that the masterminds and their accomplices will be uncovered, whoever and wherever they may be.

Incidentally, the events of these past few days prove, if proof were needed, that the obstacles to the peace and national reconciliation process were not, and will never be, placed by me. Further, however serious the situation may be, I remain convinced that, no matter what, we must stay the path to peace to which we are sincerely committed.

I urge you therefore to put your trust in justice and to believe in the future of our country.

May God bless Côte d'Ivoire.

Attachment

List of persons arrested today in France

1. Four persons (mercenaries) arrested at Roissy, Charles de Gaulle:

   Jurgen Harry Pohl

   Paul Lionelli (Corsican)

   Jean-Luc Muliakaaka (Kanak)

   Maurice Nanou Kakou (Ivorian)

2. Five persons arrested at hotel Méridien, Montparnasse, Paris:

   Chief Sergeant Ibrahim Coulibaly, alias I.B. (service passport of Burkina Faso)

   Me Mamadou Diomande (Ivorian), lawyer in Saint-Nazaire

   Hassan Farouk Fakhr (Lebanese), financier of the operation

   Vakaramoko Diaby (Ivorian)

   Kouakou Gnamien (Ivorian)

3. One person arrested at Orange/southern France:

   Véa Soakimi (mercenary)